

HILL'S TARIFF SPEECH

Confined Principally to a Criticism of the Income Tax.

A ROAST OF THE ADMINISTRATION

For Its Hawaiian Policy, Which He Intimates is a Blunder Worse Than a Crime—The Wilson Bill Inconsistent With Democratic Professions. A Scathing Arrangement of It—He Reserves Further Criticisms for a Later Speech.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—The proceedings in the senate to-day from the opening to the closing of the session were full of interest. The first in point of time, was the swearing in of Mr. Walsh as a senator from Georgia, to serve out the term of the late Senator Colquitt.

Two resolutions intended to facilitate debate in the tariff bill were introduced, one by Senator Mills providing for an amendment to the rules so as to permit of the previous question and the other by Senator Allen providing for the taking of the final vote on the bill on June 7th following three days for debate under the five minute rule. Both went over without action.

The Walcott resolution looking to the coinage of Mexican dollars for the China trade, was discussed but action on it was deferred until to-morrow.

Senator Harris sought to reach some arrangement for the earlier meeting of the senate and for longer sessions for the consideration of the tariff bill, but his efforts encountered such strenuous opposition that nothing was accomplished. The chief interest of the day centered in Senator Hill's speech. That the question has not lost all its fascination was shown by the large crowds drawn to the senate. The speech was mainly directed against the income tax, although Mr. Hill spoke of the "humiliation" of the Hawaiian question, which he attributed to the fact that the head of the state department was a Republican.

SENATOR HILL'S SPEECH.

The Income Tax Its Main Feature—The President's Policy Denounced.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—The speech of Senator Hill delivered in the senate to-day was chiefly devoted to an extensive and bitter attack on the income tax feature of the Wilson bill. His opening remarks, however, took a wider range.

"The political revolution," he began, "which commenced in 1890 and culminated in 1892, was an emphatic expression of the popular will in behalf of certain governmental policies. Measures and not men were largely the issues involved in that movement."

He then took up the foreign policy of the administration, saying: "It is not denied that some mistakes have occurred. Our foreign policy, especially that relating to Hawaii, it must be admitted, has not met the expectations of the people. A sense of humiliation prevailed when the project for the restoration of a deposed monarchy was unfolded by the administration, and gratification ensued when its abandonment or failure was reluctantly announced, influenced largely by an aroused public sentiment."

HERE'S A ROAST.

"That unfortunate contemplated policy was a blunder, and a blunder is sometimes worse than a crime. It was, however, the natural consequence which might well have been anticipated from that other mistake in placing the department of the state in charge of a Republican statesman, distinguished and estimable though he may be, whose public service have always been identified in opposition to the Democratic party, who was without sympathy for its traditions and purposes, and whose political convictions upon the disputed public questions of the day, if changed at all, are carefully concealed."

"It is to be regretted that the President should not have been able to find in his own party some safe and honored statesman in whom he and his party could have placed confidence, one of Democratic instincts and training, whose management of foreign affairs would have reflected credit upon the country, and would have avoided the promulgation of that un-American policy—a departure from Democratic precedents—which was sought to be forced upon an unwilling people. In this view of the situation our opponents must accept some share of the responsibility for the blunders committed in our foreign affairs."

He spoke of the repeal of the federal election law as a fulfillment of the party's pledges and a triumph for the just doctrine of states' rights and endorsed the repeal of the Sherman law.

Coming then to the main question—tariff reform—he said that revision should be approached with circumspection and with a realizing sense of the changed condition of the country since 1887 and 1890.

"An extreme reduction of tariff duties at a time when the treasury was swollen with a surplus of a hundred million dollars, when the country was reasonably prosperous, when all our industries were in motion, and all our workmen were employed, assumed a different aspect and presented a different question when proposed now with a large and growing treasury deficit instead of a surplus staring us in the face, with our industries paralyzed, our manufacturing closed, our workmen idle, and following upon the heels of one of the most disastrous financial panics in our history."

"In the face of the prostration of private industries," he continued, "and in the face of such a paralysis of general business as the treasury deficit attests and prolongs, the bill, as framed by its authors and passed by the house, sought to double the deficit by discarding customs revenue and to fill the void with an income tax."

AGAINST THE INCOME TAX.

The rest of his speech was given up to the income tax question, and his opening words defined his position in unequivocal and forceful language.

"Against such a scheme," he said, "unnecessary, ill-timed and mischievous—suddenly sprung upon the country in its nature and essential in its tendency—I enter the protest of the people of the state of New York. They utterly dissent from any proposal to get revenue for the general government by taxing incomes. Their dissent is practically unanimous and altogether inescapable."

He intimated that the tariff bill was constructed on lines laid down by the administration; that it was an anomalous state of affairs when the President

should be able to give Congress information as to what had occurred in a committee of the house, and said that "in these latter days the distinction between the functions and prerogatives of the executive department on the one hand and the legislative department on the other do not seem to be always observed. The truth is that the first information which Congress had of the alleged details of the proposed bill was in the message itself."

But the strangest part of this unprecedented proceeding was that in fact at the very date of the message, to wit, December 4, 1893, neither the full committee of ways and means nor the Democratic members thereof had agreed upon any income tax or upon other internal taxation.

"The senior senator from Indiana, Mr. Voorhees, calls this allegation a 'noisy and resounding charge.' Let me tell him it is not half so noisy as the constant vituperations which we hear on every hand from blatant demagogues who are abroad in the land loudly inveighing against the wealth of the country and impudently demanding its confiscation through every means which their devilish ingenuity can invent."

"The public should not be misled into the belief that only those whose incomes exceed \$4,000 are affected by this bill. That is a mistaken idea."

"In the first place all those having incomes less than \$4,000 and over \$3,500 are put to the annoyance of making sworn returns, and they neglect it at their peril."

"In the second place it may reasonably be apprehended that some portion of the tax paid will reimburse itself by an increase of rents, where the income was derived from that source."

"So poor tenants may be affected in some degree, as well as rich landlords. The bill seriously affects the rights and interests of building and loan associations throughout the country incorporated under state laws. The senate amendments do not cure the defects complained of."

A STRONG PROTEST.

Inquiring as to the source of the demand he said: "That nothing was heard in its behalf on the part of either of the two great political parties in the campaign of 1892. Neither the Republican nor Democratic platform proposed any such methods of raising revenues. No prominent Democrat or Republican suggested any such measures. Its approval was limited to the platform of the newly formed Populist party and its advocacy was restricted to Populist orators." He protested against the Democratic party being made a tail to the Populist kite and denied the right of a Democratic Congress to make new principles for the party not sanctioned by its representatives in national convention duly assembled.

"The substitution of internal or direct taxes for custom house taxation, meant the reduction of the wages of American workmen to the European standards. It meant the degradation of labor; it meant the deprivation to our workmen of the comforts and luxuries of life to which they have been accustomed."

"For my own part, as a Democrat," he said, "I prefer indirect taxation and tariff reform above direct taxes, and tariff extinction. I prefer taxing foreign products rather than taxing home products. I follow Jefferson in regarding even the species of indirect taxation on home products by internal revenue war taxes as not good to be extended and the first to be rid of when their need is past."

"If McKinleyism is socialism for the benefit of the rich, and the income tax is socialism for the benefit of the poor, no true American Democrat will look to the hair of the dog to cure his bite. American Democrats will reject socialism of both kinds. If my counsels were heeded I would surprise and satisfy the country by the conservatism of our progress in revenue reform. The McKinley bill lost the country to our opponents by its extreme features in one direction, and we should avoid the opposite extreme."

He quoted from the speech of Senator Voorhees that the passage of the bill would produce a surplus, and said that according to this statement the bill has "jumped out of the frying pan into the fire." From a deficiency there has arisen an immoderate surplus. One extreme has been succeeded by another. The committee made many changes, taking sugar, iron, coal, lead and other articles from the free list and making them dutiable, and providing for a tax upon sugar estimated by official experts to realize \$41,822,263.61, and an additional tax on spirits from which \$10,000,000 is anticipated. Yet, notwithstanding these large additions of revenue sources to the bill, the committee still retained the income tax.

In conclusion he defined his position in these earnest words: "I stand ready to support any reasonable measure for tariff reform framed within the lines and based upon the principles which I have here partially indicated and which were fully set forth in my speech in opening the political campaign in Brooklyn on September 19, 1892. I stand to-day where I stood then. I have nothing to add and nothing to retract."

"I will cheerfully vote for the Mills bill and join with you in making many material reductions of duties thereon. I am ready to waive all minor difference or details which do not involve a question of principle."

"Having spoken to-day and especially upon the income feature of this bill I reserve the expression of my views upon its other features until near the close of the discussion."

"Mr. President this is an important crisis in this history of the Democratic party. The failure of the tariff revision means the defeat, the demoralization, if not the division and the annihilation of our party. Moreover, it means, as we believe, injury to the best interests of the country. Let those who insist upon injecting into this bill this odious and undemocratic feature of an income tax—a relic of war legislation—pause and reflect upon the possible consequences of their unwarrantable demands."

DAILY DAY IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—The house was depopulated to-day. Three-fourths of the members were at the senate listening to Senator Hill's speech on the tariff. Those who remained were occupied with District of Columbia affairs, but little actual business was transacted.

Two Important Bills.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—Senator Martin, of Kansas, has two bills before the senate committee on judiciary which he is very anxious to have considered. They provide for the retirement on full pay of the United States judges, one of them after twenty years of continuous service, and the other on account of physical or mental disability rendering a judge incapable of service.

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FOR GOOD ROADS.

Railroads Willing to Co-operate With the Government in the Movement.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—Practically all of the railroads along road-material producing sections of the country will co-operate with the agricultural department in the movement for better roads. Letters have been received from a large number of the railroad officials, to which circulars were sent by General Stone, in charge of the road inquiry bureau, asking if the companies would combine for a uniform cost basis rate for road materials. Almost all assert their willingness to join with connecting roads to promote the good roads movement.

Some of the officials have replied that while willing to carry the material at the bare cost of hauling, their road are prohibited from making such rates to either persons or states and suggested that the department will have to take the matter to the state legislature or to the inter-state commerce commission before the roads would be at liberty to act. The department officials, however, believe that there will be no difficulty in securing the necessary legislation.

PROGRESS IN JAPAN.

The Silver Wedding of the Emperor Would Have Been Creditable to a European Court.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—People who believe that Japan is still a semi-civilized country would be speedily undeceived by reading a recent report made to the department of state by United States Minister Dun, at Tokio. The minister gives an account of the silver wedding of the emperor on March 12 last, and according to the description the magnificent yet refined style of the ceremonies would be creditable to any European court. A notable feature of the entertainment was the rendition of music composed 1,300 years ago and dances adapted to it at the time by the Prince Otsumi. The guests received as souvenirs silver statues of storks, and in strong contrast with the olden custom the emperor threw aside all reserve and conversed cordially with individual members of the diplomatic body.

Minister to Ecuador.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—The President to-day sent the following nominations to the senate: Edward H. Strobel, of New York, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Ecuador; William Rockhill, of Maryland, third assistant secretary of state, vice Edward H. Strobel, nominated minister to Ecuador.

A Sugar Bark Wrecked.

CHATHAM, MASS., April 9.—The bark Belmont, of Boston, from Trinidad to Boston, with 4,837 bags of sugar to the American Sugar Refining Company, went ashore on Beacon Hill bar during last night's storm and is a total wreck to-day. Six of the crew are lost and three drifted ashore on a spar. The vessel was owned by John S. Emery of Boston, and was valued at \$10,000.

A Fatal Quarrel.

CHICAGO, April 9.—William Sabar, a German laborer, shot and killed himself and wife to-day at their home No. 333 Thirty-ninth street. The couple quarrelled over family matters. Sabar has been out of employment for some months. The couple leave five daughters who have been supporting the family.

The Quaker Philanthropist Dead.

RICHMOND, IND., April 9.—William P. Harry, president of the Cincinnati, Richmond & Fort Wayne railroad, died to-day, aged eighty-four. Deceased was very wealthy, a philanthropist of national reputation, and for fifty years was one of the most prominent members of the Society of Friends.

A Blizzard in Maine.

BAR HARBOR, ME., April 9.—A blizzard has been raging here since noon yesterday. The drifts are four and five feet deep. It is still snowing and blowing a gale.

Who Says Rheumatism Can Not be Cured?

My wife was confined to her bed for over two months with a severe attack of rheumatism. We could get nothing that would afford her any relief, and as a last resort gave Chamberlain's Pain Balm a trial. To our great surprise she began to improve after the first application, and by using it regularly she was soon able to get up and attend to her house work.—E. H. Johnson, of C. J. Knutson & Co., Kensington, Minn.

GENTLEMEN:—I am subject to periodical attacks of sick headache of the worst possible type and commenced taking Krause's Headache Capsules last summer. They cure it in every instance, and since that time I am enjoying splendid health and have gained ten pounds in weight.

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